

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] In some embodiments, an early assay, such as the first assay, is followed by a later assay. The early assay ~~will be~~ normally [will] be used in initial identification of the polypeptides that identify or separate cases from controls. The later assay is adjusted according to parameters that can focus diagnostics or evaluation of regions of interest, such as regions of high variability, i.e. those regions or markers where there are significant differences between case samples and control samples. The parameters can be determined by, for example, an early assay which may identify the regions of interest, which may be on one technology platform, and a later assay on the same or a different platform.

Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph:

[0038] Cardiovascular disease may be studied in other applications of the invention. Examples of cardiovascular disease include, but are not limited to, congestive heart failure, high blood pressure, arrhythmias, cholesterol, Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome, long QT syndrome, angina pectoris, tachycardia, bradycardia, atrial fibrillation, ventricular fibrillation, congestive heart failure, myocardial ischemia, myocardial infarction, cardiac tamponade, myocarditis, pericarditis, arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Williams syndrome, heart valve diseases, endocarditis, bacterial, pulmonary atresia, aortic valve stenosis, Raynaud's disease, ~~Raynaud's disease~~, cholesterol embolism, Wallenberg syndrome, Hippel-Lindau disease, and telangiectasis.

Please replace paragraph [0055] with the following amended paragraph:

[0055] Chromatography is another method for separating a subset of polypeptides. Chromatography is based on the differential absorption and elution of certain polypeptides. Liquid chromatography (LC), for example, involves the use of fluid carrier over a non-mobile phase. Conventional LC columns have an inner diameter of roughly 4.6 mm and a flow rate of roughly 1 ml/min. Micro-LC has an ~~in~~ inner diameter of roughly 1.0 mm and a flow rate of roughly 40 ul/min. Capillary LC

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utilizes a capillary with an inner diameter of roughly 300  $\mu\text{m}$  and a flow rate of approximately 5  $\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$ . Nano-LC is available with an inner diameter of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  - 1 mm and flow rates of 200  $\text{nl}/\text{min}$ . Nano-LC can vary in length (e.g., 5, 15, or 25 cm) and have typical packing of C18, 5  $\mu\text{m}$  particle size. In a preferred embodiment, nano-LC is used. Nano-LC provides increased sensitivity due to lower dilution of chromatographic sample. The sensitivity of nano-LC as compared to HPLC is approximately 3700 fold.